



#8

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Gross Point

GROSS
POINT
95

YOU CAN READ ANYTHING
IN MY COLLECTION YOU WANT..
JUST PUT IT BACK IN THE PLASTIC
WHEN YOU'RE DONE.



LEAVE IT TO YOU, BRIAN, TO GET LOST ON THE WAY HOME FROM SCHOOL.

I STILL SAY CUTTING THROUGH PENANCE PARK LIKE THIS IS QUICKER-- ONCE WE FIGURE OUT THE PATH.

I WAS IN THE BOY SCOUTS, Y'KNOW.

YEAH, FOR ABOUT TEN MINUTES.

TELL YOU WHAT-- MONDAY, I'LL TAKE THE REGULAR WAY HOME AND WE CAN LIKE, RACE.

TERRI!

THE SECRET OF THE OLD MEAL

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SEEWW, THAT'S...UH...MORE
COWBES THAN YOU USUALLY
SEE...!



C'MON, I HAVE TO CALL
MY BOYFRIEND WHEN
WE GET HOME.

QUIT
BRAGGING,
JUST BECAUSE
YOU FELL INTO
--OWW!

SPROING



WHAT
THE
...?

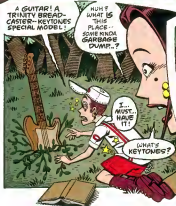


A GUITAR! A
TRINITY BREAD-
CASTER--KEYTONS
SPECIAL MODEL!

HUH? WHAT IS
THIS
PLACE--
SOME KINDA
GARBAGE
DUMP..?

I...
MUST...
HAVE
IT!

WHAT'S
KEYTONS?



THE KEYTONS!
THE 2nd & PREMIER ROCK
N' ROLL COMBO OF THE 50s!
THEY ALL DIED IN A PLANE
CRASH DECEMBER 31, 1953.
THE 1st GUITAR--DAD THE 50s
DIED! I MEAN DON'T YOU
3 SEE...-- KNOW YOUR
MUSIC HISTORY?





DAMN! A WHOLE FACT LODGED ITSELF IN YOUR SKULL!

THIS MUST BE IMPORTANT TO YOU.



BONK



YOU OKAY, BIR?



HEY THERE'S A BAND HAVING AUDITIONS TOMORROW MORNING!

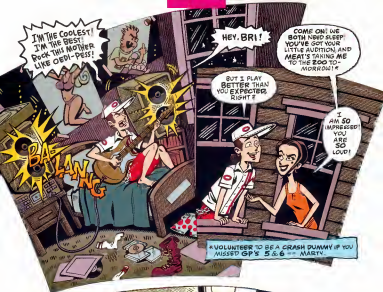
AUDITIONS!
THE MORROWN SELECTIONS...
BEAT THE BOSS WITH ROCK,
A WHOLE GENIUS!
COUL' STRIKE THE NEW
WAVE!

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY DREAM TO PLAY IN A BAND!

YOU CAN'T PLAY THE GUITAR, SCROTE-AZOID!

"I CAN LEARN."

BLANNING
VREEDLE
EEDLE
BLANNING
VREEDLE
EET



THAT LIGHTHOUSE IS COMING
BETWEEN ME AND MY MUSIC
CAREER.

WHAT'S
WITH THESE
BATTERIES?

I GUESS THE
RABBIT DIED.

GROSS POINT
AFTER DARK? —
GAAND! IT BEATS
LOSING SLEEP...
BUT JUST
BARELY.

AT LEAST WE CAN
SEE WHERE WE'RE GOING
EVERY 17
SECONDS.

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BRI...? I
DON'T SUPPOSE
THAT'S YOU
MISSING?

I SURE
HOPE SO

DRINKS
VICE IS VIRTUE
5-8pm. WTH

OWW

THUDD



HEY!--

--WHO ARE
YOU?

GOLLY! WHAT A
POTTY- MOUTH!

-- NOTHING
BUT "W"s
AND DOTS
AND
SLASHES!

WE THINK A SPYRING IS
SENDING SIGNALS TO RUSSIA, OR
SOME WARSAW PACT COUNTRY--
FROM AN AMERICAN LIGHTHOUSE.
THE RATS!

I'M DRUSILLA, AND
THEY ARE NED AND
TED! WE'RE ON OUR
WAY TO LEARN THE
SECRET OF THE
OLD LIGHTHOUSE!

THE INVESTIGATIVE TRIO

DRU DRUSILLA
NED NED
TED TED

WHO RUN
THINGS AS
DUMB QUESTION

WE PICKED UP
SOME STRANGE
MORSE CODE
OTHER ON OUR
HAM RADIO--

"MORSE
CODES"?

"HAM
RADIO"!!

MONSTER CONE

UM, WE'RE TERRI
AND BRIAN PICKETT.
WE'RE HEADED OUT TO
THE LIGHTHOUSE, TOO.

SO... WAIT.
YOU GUYS ARE--
--UH--
YOU'RE--?

AMATEUR
SLEUTHS,
HANDSOME,
EVER SINCE OUR
FIRST ADVENTURE,
"THE SECRET OF THE
FIFTH COLUMN!"

MONSTER
BURGER

MY FATHER
SAYS IT'S
NOT LADYLIKE
TO WANT TO BE A
DETECTIVE...
BUT I JUST TELL
HIM I'M FOLLOW-
ING IN HIS FOOT-
STEPS!

I THINK A GIRL WHO USES HER MIND CAN
STILL BE ATTRACTIVE, DON'T YOU? I MEAN--
AT LEAST UNTIL SHE'S MARRIED!

YOU SAID
IT, DRU!

ATTA-
GIRL,
DRU!

DON'T YOU THINK
SO, BRIAN?

UHH... I GOT A
GUITAR...

HOW
NICE FOR
YOU!

SO WHERE'D
YOU SAY YOU
GUYS LIVE?

OUT ON
OLD
PLANK
ROAD!

ON OUT
BY THE
CEMETERY.

WE HAVE A SECRET
HEADQUARTERS
IN ONE OF THE
MAUSOLEUMS,
WITH ELECTRICITY
AND EVERYTHING!
A CHEMICAL LAB...
DARKROOM...

A FILE
ON EVERY
FOREIGNER
IN TOWN.

NOW
PLAYING--THE LITTLE PRINCE
AND SELECTED SHORT SUBJECTS







LEAVE-THUFF! CAN YOU
GUYS SMELL THAT?

SMELLS LIKE THAT OLD DEAD MAN WE FOUND... IN
"THE MYSTERY OF THE OLD DEAD MAN!"

ARE
THESE
STAIRS
SAFE?

SMELLS
LIKE SLOPPY
JOS TO
ME.

LOOK!
SOMEBODY
PUT IT UP
TO WARN
US AWAY!

UM...
THERE,
THERE.

ANYBODY
SEE A
SWITCH
BOX?

HOW
AWFUL!
BRNN,
HOLD MY
HAND!

WOW, DREW!
YOUR HAND IS
COLD...!

LOOK!

GET OUT!
YOU'LL RUIN
EVERYTHING!

MYRNA?!



"I ALWAYS ASSUMED SHE WAS JUST ANOTHER CREEPY, HEAD-BANDED LUNATIC. YOU SEE A LOT OF THOSE IN GROSS POINT."

WHAT IS THIS SLOP?

I -- I CAN'T SAY. PLEASE! DON'T TELL THEM I SPOKE TO YOU!



IS THAT SO?

THE ALIENS -- THEY'RE COMING TONIGHT! THEY'RE GOING TO MAKE ME ONE OF THEM.

I'M FLASHING THE BEACON FASTER TO LET THE WHOLE RECEPTION COMMITTEE KNOW!



I KNEW IT! ALIEN NATIONALS ARE ABOUT TO INVADE!

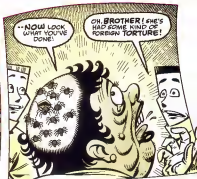
I KNEW I SMELLED SLOPPY JOES!

YOU LOUSY TRAITOR, I'LL --

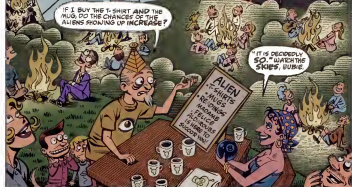
SO, CAN WE, LIKE, TURN THE LIGHT OFF?

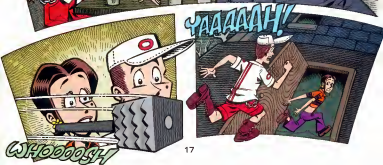
NOOOOO!



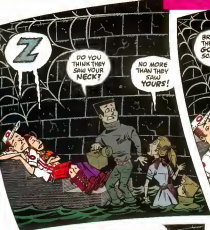












WHAT HAPPENED TO THE
INVESTIGATIVE TRIO?

THEY
HAD TO
JET.

SKAASH!

POOR MYRNA. SO SPIDERS
REALLY WERE EATING HER
BRAIN ...?

I GUESS
IT REALLY
EXPLAINS
A LOT,
THOUGH.

I DON'T GET IT. THE
EARTH SPIDERS SAID THEY
HAD DUPED THE HUMAN
INTO LURING MANY OTHERS
HERE. SO WHERE ARE
THEY?

JUST SPIDERS IN HER
BRAIN. IF THAT'S THE
MOST REPULSIVE THING
THIS ~~WORLD~~ TOWN CAN
HAND US... WELL, GOOD.

ALIEN
INVADERS...!
I SHOULD
YEAH,
RIGHT.

AARRGH!

HELP!

I SIGH: BRAINS JUST DON'T
TASTE THE SAME WITHOUT
THE SLOPPY JOES...

BACK INTO THE
WOODS, EVERYBODY.
OUR TIME WILL
COME.

NO.





Gross Points

Scary Suggestions,
and Rude Remarks

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DEAR GROSS POINT EDITORS,
GROSS POINT #1 WAS AWESOME! YOU SHOULD MAKE A WHOLE ISSUE... WITH NINE-FINGERED DAVE IN ALL OF IT, (AND PUT) KLEPTO IN ALL OF IT, TOO. HOW MUCH DOES IT COST FOR A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF **GROSS POINT** COMICS?

CHRISTOPHER
TRAMONTANA
BRENTWOOD, IN

YOU MUST BE TALKING ABOUT A SUBSCRIPTION, AND YOU CAN FIND OUT HOW MUCH ONE COSTS, AND WHERE TO SEND AWAY FOR ONE, IN THAT LITTLE BOX OF TINY PRINT CALLED THE INDICIA (WHERE IT TELLS YOU WHAT MONTHS ISSUE AND VOLUME NUMBER YOU'RE READING) — USUALLY ON STORY PAGE ONE. HAPPY HUNTING! MEANWHILE, KLEPTO RETURNS NEXT ISSUE, IN ANOTHER "HOTEL DEKAYE" BACKUP STORY!

I'VE READ THE FIRST ISSUE... AND I THOUGHT IT WAS LOTS OF PROMISE. FROM THE LOOK OF THE COVER I THOUGHT IT WAS GOING TO BE SOME SORT OF STUPID ADDAMS FAMILY OR MUNSTERS RIP-OFF, BUT IT ACTUALLY WAS DECENT. TWO TRENDY TEENS WITH AVERAGE PARENTS SET IN SOME KIND OF ECCENTRIC UNDERWORLD/ FREAK SHOW WILL SNAG THE ATTENTIONS OF THE YOUTH BECAUSE THE SISTERS ARE POTENTIAL IDOLS (THEY'RE JUST SO DAMN TRENDY!) AND (BECAUSE OF) THE RISE OF HORROR MOVIES AGAIN ("SCREAM," "SEVEN")... THE STORYLINE SO FAR HAS MUCH FORESHADOWING. THE MYSTERY OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

CAN BE AN ONGOING THING FOR MANY ISSUES, AS WELL AS THE WORK PROBLEMS FOR THE FAMILY (INCLUDING MOM AND WHATEVERNAME).

NORMA RYAN
URBANA, IL

YOU'VE ALREADY SEEN THAT IN THIS ISSUE WE PROBABLY RAISED MORE QUESTIONS ABOUT THAT LIGHTHOUSE THAN WE ANSWERED. SO YOU'RE RIGHT, NORMA — THE LIGHTHOUSE MYSTERY PROBABLY WILL GO ON FOR SEVERAL ISSUES. NOT THAT WE PLANNED IT THAT WAY...

CREATORS OF **GROSS POINT** (TRYING TO MAKE A NOT-SO-HONEST BUCK),

THANK YOU FOR CREATING SUCH VILE, DISGUSTING, ROTTEN TRASH TO ADD TO OUR LANDFILLS! IT WAS GREAT. DON'T GET ME WRONG, IT WAS WITTY AND ALL. I MEAN, I OPEN THE PAGES TO FIND TOTAL WEIRDNESS, CENSORED SWEARING, AND BODY PARTS FLYING EVERYWHERE, AND IT ALL BLEW MY MIND AWAY. AND SOME OF MY INTERNAL OSCAR. IT'S ALL I'VE COME TO EXPECT FROM JENETTE KAHN, PAUL LEVITZ, AND MARTIN PASKO (WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?). OH, AND YOUR GP CONTRIBUTORS — LIKE RICK PARKER FROM THE BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD COMIC BOOK — YES, TRULY A WORK OF ART, MY FRIEND! ANYWAY, I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU TO KEEP UP THE DISGUSTING WORK AND MISLEADING COVERS.

BRAINDEAD DAVE
VIA AOL

THANKS, DAVE. WE THINK.

(OR SHOULD THAT BE "THANKS, BEAM"? WHATEVER.) WHEN YOU DECIDE WHETHER YOU LIKE GP OR NOT, LET US KNOW, OKAY? AS FOR THOSE PEOPLE YOU MENTIONED: NEVER HEARD OF 'EM. PROBABLY SOME GUYS OUR WRITERS MADE UP. LIKE IT SAYS AT THE BOTTOM OF THIS COLUMN — "ANY RESEMBLANCE TO AN ACTUAL PERSON," ET CETERA, ET CETERA...

DEAR GROSS POINTS,

I JUST FINISHED READING #3 AND TO MY SURPRISE IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS I'VE READ IN A LONG TIME. SELDOM DO I STRAY FROM SUPERHERO / ACTION-ADVENTURE BOOKS, BUT THIS TIME IT WAS WORTH IT. MY INTERESTS LIE IN HORROR / MACABRE TYPE STUFF, SO THE SATIRE ADDS AN INTERESTING TWIST.

TWO COVERS ON ISSUE #3 FEATURED ART BY S. M. TAGGART. IS THIS THE SAME GUY WHO ONCE DREW ALBUM COVERS FOR THE LIXES OF AGNOSTIC FRONT AND OTHERS BACK IN THE MID-EIGHTIES? I ALWAYS LOVED HIS WORK. IF SO, CAN YOU LIST SOME OF HIS OTHER WORK?

CHRIS HESS
LANCASTER, PA

YEAH, SEAN TAGGART, OUR PRIMO CHARACTER DESIGNER AND COVER ARTIST (LIKE, SAY, ON THIS VERY ISSUE), IS ABSOLUTELY THE SAME GUY YOU REMEMBER. WE BECAME FANS OF SEAN'S WHEN HE DID A BOOK FOR US IN '96 CALLED **WHERE IN THE WORLD IS CARMEN**

SANDIEGO? IN ADDITION, HE'S DONE MANY OTHER ALBUM COVERS, MOST VISIBLY FOR THE JERKY BOYS, INCLUDING THEIR LATEST; ILLUSTRATIONS FOR HARPERCOLLINE'S "CARMEN SANDIEGO" BOOK SERIES; AND A LINE OF VERY COOL GREETING CARDS FOR NOBLEWORKS. ALL OF WHICH EXPLAINS WHY HE'S TOO EXHAUSTED TO DO MORE THAN AN OCCASIONAL COVER FOR GP (SIGH)...

DEAR GROSS POINT:

GROSS POINT #4 WAS HILARIOUS. (IT) HAD ME LAUGHING FROM BEGINNING TO (END). DOES (TERRI) SHOWING (HER) BELLY BUTTON SEND THE WRONG MESSAGE? WELL... ONLY IF THERE'S LINT IN THAT BELLY BUTTON. OTHERWISE, CHARMANTE HAS NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT. HECK, CHER DID IT ALL THE TIME. I REMEMBER WHEN I GOT OUT OF THE ARMY... I WORKED FOR A TEMP AGENCY AND THEY SENT ME TO THE MOST BIZARRE WORK ESTABLISHMENTS, BUT NOTHING AS WEIRD AS "MADAME TOUSSAUD'S PETTING ZOO." I LOVED THIS ISSUE, IT WAS FUNNY; IT WAS CRAZY; IT WAS OUTRAGEOUS AND IT MAKES INSANE PEOPLE LIKE ME BECOME SANE!!

PAUL DALE ROBERTS
SACRAMENTO, CA

MAYBE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THAT, BUT IF WE LET LOOKING AT GROSS POINT MAKE US SANE, WE'D BE OUT OF A JOB! LUCKY FOR US WE EDIT EVERY ISSUE WITH OUR EYES CLOSED!

DEAR GROSS POINT:

I LOVE TO READ GROSS

POINT! IT RULES! I HAVE A QUESTION, THOUGH: WHAT WAS THE DEAL WITH TERRI AND BRIAN MORPHING AROUND IN MR. DEBATA'S CLASS? IT WAS STRANGE AND FUNNY, BUT I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS MAKING THEM CHANGE SHAPE.

BRANDON BARRETT
TRAVELERS REST, SC

THE "MORPHING" THAT CONFUSED YOU (SORRY!) WAS OUR ARTIST'S ATTEMPT TO SHOW BRIAN AND TERRI FROM DEBATA'S POINT OF VIEW — SYMBOLIZING HOW THEY'D LOOK TO SOMEBODY WHO'S BEEN TAKING STUFF HE SHOULDN'T.

DEAR GROSS POINT/READER:

EVEN THOUGH MY PARENTS HATE (GROSS POINT), MY MOM CAN USUALLY EXPLAIN THE REFERENCES I DON'T GET — LIKE HOW "DESIDERATA" WAS THE NAME OF A FAMOUS POEM OR SOMETHING THAT GOT PRINTED UP AS A POSTER IN THE '60S. BUT SHE COULDN'T HELP ME WITH "EDWARD GEIN HIGH SCHOOL." WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?

TANYA JACUKIEWICZ
LITTLE FALLS, NJ

ED GEIN WAS A NOTORIOUS SERIAL KILLER OF THE 1950S, FAMOUS FOR USING HIS VICTIMS' BODY PARTS FOR ARTS AND CRAFTS (AMONG OTHER THINGS). HE IS REPUTEDLY THE REAL-LIFE INSPIRATION FOR THE LEATHERFACE CHARACTER IN THE MOVIE "TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE," SO IT'S EASY TO SEE WHY GROSS POINT NAMED A HIGH SCHOOL AFTER HIM. RIGHT?

THIS JUST IN:

NOW YOU CAN EXCHANGE BBS POSTS ABOUT GROSS POINT WITH OTHER READERS! CHECK OUT THE GP FOLDER ON THE ALL-AGES BULLETIN BOARD AT DC COMICS ONLINE — ON THE "ENTERTAINMENT" CHANNEL OF AMERICA ONLINE! GOT A COMPUTER AND A MODEM, BUT NO AOL? CALL 1-800-205-2600 FOR A FREE STARTER KIT AND TELL 'EM DC COMICS SENT YA!



NEXT ISSUE: BRIAN DISCOVERS WHERE THAT WEIRD GUITAR HE FOUND THIS ISSUE CAME FROM, AND WHAT DEMONIC SECRET IT KEEPS... ONLY HE'S NOT EXACTLY THE SAME BRIAN WE'VE COME TO KNOW AND LAUGH AT WHEN HE DOES. BE HERE FOR "POSSESSION IS NINE-TENTHS OF THE FLAW" BY MATT WAYNE, RETURNING PENCILLER JOE STATION, AND THE EVER-PRESENT ROGER LANGRIDGE. ITS FOLLOWED BY THE DEKAYE SISTERS IN "OLD CRUMBS," FOR WHICH WAYNE AND LANGRIDGE ARE JOINED BY PENCILLER RICK PARKER. GP #9 HITS THE COMIC SHOPS IN LATE JANUARY, AND EVERYWHERE ELSE RIGHT AFTER VALENTINE'S DAY! KISS, KISS!

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